



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE AGENDA

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

MINUTES

July 1, 2021, 5PM

Members present: Zoe Iacovino, Jessica Lieberman, Emily Monea, Laura Pitone, Kat Rutkin, Beverly (Bev) Schwartz, Lucas Schaber, William (Bill) White

Members not present: Ona Ferguson, Crystal Turner, Meagan Benetti, Ben Echevarria

Staff attending: Anna Corning, Hope Williams, Collins Center - Libby Corbo, Collins Center - Steve McGoldrick

Other attending: Anne S Ryan, Barry Rafkind, Greg Dennis, Klaus Schultz, Samantha Gibb, Pat Cain, Stephen Mackey, Unknown community member via phone

Meeting started at 5:05PM

Decisions:

1. Committee approved meeting minutes from 6/17.
 - a. Seven 5s
2. Committee approved moving forward with interviewing thirteen proposed interviewees, removing the former member of the charter review committee from the list and adding the Racial and Social Justice Director. The thirteen approved interviewees are: John Long, Matt McLaughlin, Tim Snyder, Joe Curtatone, Janice Delory, Carrie Normand, Mary Skipper, Ed Bean, George Proakis, Nick Selerno, Sara Oaklander, Denise Taylor, and Denise Molina Capers.
 - a. Nine 5s
3. Committee approved having the kick-off event at Chuckie Harris park if possible, and project managers will update the fliers and documents so they can be printed and out into the community by the following week. Committee approved having an interesting food draw like ice cream, modified stations, and translated fliers.
 - a. Nine 5s
4. Committee approved prioritizing those who have spoken least often in public comments, to be monitored by project Managers.
 - a. Eight 5s, one 4

The committee uses the Fist to Five method of voting, a technique for gauging consensus. Voting ranges from 0 to 5. The scale is: 0 - no way, 1 - major issues to be resolved now, 2 - minor issues to be resolved now, 3 - minor issues to be resolved later, 4 - comfortable with this as it is, 5 - love this and will champion it. 0-2 is considered a lack of consensus, while 3-5 is considered consensus.

MINUTES

1. Welcome 5:01
 - a. Anna welcomed the committee and community members, and reminded everyone that this was the first meeting with public comment.
2. Approve 6/17 Minutes 5:06
 - a. Meeting minutes from 6/17 were approved.
3. Public Comment 5:05
 - a. Committee heard public comments from Barry Rafkind, Samantha Gibb, and Klaus Schultz.
4. Coordinating Team Interview Proposal 5:25
 - a. Emily presented the Collins Center interviewee list created by the Coordinating Team. The original list was John Long, Matt McLaughlin, Tim Snyder, Joe Curtatone, Janice Delory, Carrie Normand, Mary Skipper, Member of the previous charter review committee, Ed Bean, George Proakis, Nick Selerno, Sara Oaklander, Denise Taylor.
 - i. Concern was voiced that this list is predominately white and male, which is a shame because it shows the way our organization is currently structured. Andre Greene and Jill Lathan are mentioned as possible additions.
 - ii. There is a conversation about administrative code and who can/should speak to administrative code. Committee decided the previous charter review member would not be best to discuss this, and instead to make a more diverse and representative slate we should add Denise Molina Capers, the Racial and Social Justice Chair.
 - iii. Committee approved via fist to five moving forward with interviewing thirteen proposed interviewees, removing the former member of the charter review committee from the list and adding the Racial and Social Justice Director. The thirteen approved interviewees are: John Long, Matt McLaughlin, Tim Snyder, Joe Curtatone, Janice Delory, Carrie Normand, Mary Skipper, Ed Bean, George Proakis, Nick Selerno, Sara Oaklander, Denise Taylor, and Denise Molina Capers.
5. Community Engagement Kick-off Update 5:40
 - a. Anna gave an update that we were approved for tabling at ArtBeat (7/10) and Union Square Farmers Market, but we are still waiting on details from both events.
 - b. Jessica gave updates on the Kick-off Event, including a potential change of location. The committee recommended Chuckie Harris Park for July 17th at 3pm.
 - i. Laura mentions the need to have something to draw people to the event, like an ice cream truck. There are questions about getting interpreters for the event if the fliers will be in multiple languages, which project managers will look into.

- c. Committee approved via fist to five having the kick-off event at Chuckie Harris park if possible, and project managers will update the fliers and documents so they can be printed and out into the community by the following week. Committee approved having an interesting food drawl like ice cream, modified stations, and translated fliers.
 - d. Bev brought up the possibility of prioritizing those who have spoken least often in public comments over those who speak frequently. The committee approved this via fist to five.
- 6. Collins Center Article 3 - 5 Discussion 6:00
 - a. Libby from the Collins Center continued presenting the exemplar language from Articles 2 and 3, which cover the Legislative and Executive Branches.
 - i. Committee went back to review sections of the Legislative Branch article, including further defining specific words and phrases and discussing the replacement of the City Councilors if needed. Bill White mentions he would send comments on Article 3 to the Collins Center.
 - ii. Committee continued on the Executive Branch article. There were comments and questions including posting procedures for public agendas/minutes, succession for Mayor if needed, and replacement of City Council President.

Posted: 7/16/2021 10:45AM